

2011-J4994

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, to be celebrated on June 16, 2012

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those fraternal organizations of high purpose and worthy accomplishment whose endeavors have faithfully served the welfare of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, to be celebrated on June 16, 2012, at the Council Hall in Wappingers Falls, New York; and

WHEREAS, The world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization, the Knights of Columbus was founded in the United States in 1882, was named in honor of Christopher Columbus, and supports four ideals: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism; and

WHEREAS, In 1912, a group of Catholic laymen in the area of Wappingers Falls, conceived the idea of forming a Council of the Knights of Columbus within the environs of the Village; and

WHEREAS, The men primarily responsible for the establishment of the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus were John VI. McDonald, Henry J. Parkinson, Joseph E. Lyons, James S. Evans, Patrick J. Macklin and Edward M. Drake; they were joined by others, and together they totaled 55; and

WHEREAS, On June 16, 1912, the then Supreme Knight, James A. Flaherty, granted Charter No. 1646 to the new Council; and

WHEREAS, The Major Degree, the first for Wappingers Council, was held in St. Mary's School, and following this Degree, Edward M. Drake, was appointed the first Grand Knight of the Council; and

WHEREAS, The first Chaplain, a charter member, was Father Charles F. Reed, Pastor of St. Mary's Church; the first Financial Secretary of the Council was Henry J. Parkinson; the first Advocate of the Council who served until his death in 1962, was Judge Joseph E. Lyons; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, the Council has participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parades, the 10-year anniversary service for 9/11 in Mieser Park, provided Thanksgiving food baskets for Village families, run Children's Christmas parties, helped run the 5th and 6th grade dances, run two blood drives a year, as well as helped St. Mary's Church and School; and

WHEREAS, For 100 years, the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646 has been one of the leading organizations of its village and always an effective participant in every activity for the good of the community and at all times loyal workers for the support and intensification of true Americanism; and

WHEREAS, The Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646 is still carrying out the principles of its Founding Fathers, and it is the hope of those now active in the Council that these principles will always be an influence for good throughout its community and for service to God, to Country and their fellow man; and

WHEREAS, In so effectively carrying out its mission, the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, has demonstrated the value of fostering camaraderie in a shared vision of community service; this mission is indicative of a noble organization which epitomizes the heart and soul of what it means to be an American; and

WHEREAS, Organizations of singular distinction as the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, provide a model for enhancing the

quality of life in the community and, as such, merit the grateful praise of the community of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, to be celebrated on June 16, 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Wappingers Falls Knights of Columbus, Council No. 1646, Wappingers Falls, New York.